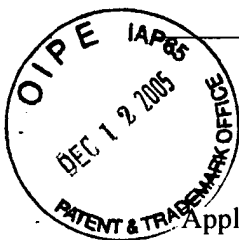


PCT

Please Direct All Correspondence to Customer Number 20995



**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Applicant : Schneider et al.  
App. No : 10/549,651 ✓  
Filed : September 16, 2005  
For : BRACING ARRANGEMENT  
COMPRISING OVERSTRAIN  
PROTECTION  
Examiner : Unknown  
Art Unit : Unknown

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

December 8, 2005

(Date)

Thomas R. Arno, Reg. No. 40,490

**Mail Stop Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

- (X) An Information Disclosure Statement and PTO/SB/08 equivalent listing references for consideration:
  - (X) Listing 3 references.
  - (X) Enclosing 1 reference.
- (X) A copy of International Search Report.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.

Thomas R. Arno  
Registration No. 40,490  
Attorney of Record  
Customer No. 20,995  
(619) 235-8550

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

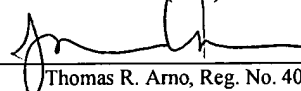
Applicant : Schneider et al.  
App. No : 10/549,651  
Filed : September 16, 2005  
For : BRACING ARRANGEMENT  
COMPRISING OVERSTRAIN  
PROTECTION  
Examiner : Unknown  
Art Unit : Unknown

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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December 8, 2005

(Date)



Thomas R. Arno, Reg. No. 40,490

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application is a PTO/SB/08 Equivalent listing 3 references to be considered by the Examiner. Also enclosed is 1 foreign patent reference as listed on the Information Disclosure Statement. Also enclosed is a copy of International Search Report.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, and presumably no fee is required. If a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before the mailing date of this Statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 12/8/05

By: 

Thomas R. Arno  
Registration No. 40,490  
Attorney of Record  
Customer No. 20,995  
(619) 235-8550

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>	Application No.	10/549,651	
	Filing Date	September 16, 2005	
	First Named Inventor	Schneider et al.	
	Art Unit	Unknown	
(Multiple sheets used when necessary)		Examiner	Unknown
SHEET 1 OF 1		Attorney Docket No.	LEITH2.001APC

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number Number - Kind Code (if known) Example: 1,234,567 B1	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	3,659,877	05-02-1972	Kubasta	
	2	5,772,378	06-30-1998	Keto-Tokoi	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code-Number-Kind Code Example: JP 1234567 A1	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>1</sup>
	3	DE 704 518	04-01-1941	German		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>1</sup>

2178403:snd  
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\***Examiner:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

T<sup>1</sup> - Place a check mark in this area when an English language Translation is attached.